

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us! If you're visiting we'd love to meet you! Please fill out this card, detach it, and place it in the offering plate.

- 1st Time Guest Return Guest
 Regular Attender Member
 Updating Personal Information

Service attending today:

- 9am 10:45am 5pm

name _____

email _____

phone _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

I am interested in learning more about:

- Membership Baptism
 Bible Studies Small Groups
 Children's Ministry
 Service Opportunities
 Other: _____

I would like a pastor to contact me:

- Yes No

Tear Here ← ← Tear Here
**This Week
@ Central**
 Learn more at
www.centralpres.com/events

Sunday

Prayer Group
Prayer Room, 8am

Worship
9 & 10:45am

Adult Sunday School
9 & 10:30am

KidCentral
9am;
10:45am (3 & 4 yr old)

Student Central
Student Center, 9am

Tuesday

Women in Ministry
Fellowship Hall, 9am

Wednesday

Men's Fellowship
Parlor, 12pm

Thursday

Women's Study Group
Parlor, 9:30am

Friday

Women's Study Group
Parlor, 9:30am

Friday, Dec 15

Christmas Concert
Sanctuary, 7:30pm

**If you're new
or trying to get
plugged in, Kate
Spielman would
love to help you
find the right fit.
Contact her today
(314-727-2777
or kspielman@centralpres.com)!**

Upcoming Events, News, & More

To learn more, visit www.centralpres.com

Your Session has called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 10:20am in the Sanctuary for the purpose of electing elders, deacons, and at-large members of the ONCC, and acting on a recommendation from the ONCC to eliminate the two at-large, active ruling elder positions on the ONCC in order to make more elders available for shepherding.

There's still time to sign your child up to participate in the 5pm Christmas Eve service in either the Angel Choir (grades K-2) or the pageant (grades 3-5). For details or to sign up, please visit www.centralpres.com/pageant.

Saturday, December 9 is Student Ministry Neighbor Day! Please join us in serving our community and lending a helping hand. We will leave Central at 8am sharp and carpool to New City Fellowship Church. We will be finished at 2pm. Please pick up your student at Central. For more info, contact Jenn land (jland@centralpres.com or 314-727-2777).

The middle and high school Christmas party is from 6-8pm on Wednesday, December 13 in the Student Center. Join us for dinner, a white elephant gift exchange, gingerbread decorating, and an ugly Christmas sweater contest!

You are invited to the next Men's Fellowship Lunch on Wednesday, December 6 at 12pm in the Parlor. Lunch is only \$5. This week is the final men's lunch in 2017, and Central member Andy Sisk is the guest speaker.

Giving online is both safe and easy! You can make one time gifts or create recurring contributions through our website or via the Central Pres app. Give online at www.centralpres.com/give or download the app at centralpres.com/gettheapp.

There is a critical need for greeters, parking attendants, and ushers between now and the end of the year when our church receives many guests. If you can help, please contact Kate Spielman (kspielman@centralpres.com or 314-854-0178).



December 3, 2017



314.727.2777

communications@centralpres.com

www.centralpres.com

www.facebook.com/CPCStL

The Macedonian Challenge

by: Tim Page

This past week, you may have seen Pastor Clay's video message. In it, he exhorted us to a "Macedonian Challenge" - a call to adopt the joyful generosity that Paul recounted in 2nd Corinthians. In that letter, Paul wrote about the remarkable giving of the Macedonians to the local church mission. Their giving was marked with a profound sense of joy.

What makes giving to God's work in the church joyful? It is the realization that our giving is an opportunity to participate in the greatest story ever told - God's mission to redeem the world through his son, Jesus Christ. The Macedonians begged Paul for the favor of giving to that work. It was not a burden to them, but an honorable privilege. It was not a duty, but rather an act that overflowed out of their love for the Lord and a passion for his mission through the work of the local church.

For generations, God has used Central to draw countless souls to faith in the Lord Jesus. That work continues today, around the world and down the block, through the myriad ministries that you make possible when you give. There is a budding excitement of how God is going

to use us in the months ahead to further impact the world with His saving message. It is an exciting time to be part of what God is doing here.

Will you join us this December by answering the Macedonian Challenge? Imagine the impact that Central could make if we - every single one of us - were moved to give with the joy of the Macedonians. Our goal is to raise \$1,000,000 between now and December 31. Please join us to beat it! May we be overjoyed together at the chance to participate in the greatest story ever told.

To view Pastor Clay's video message, visit our website at www.centralpres.com/giving.

Did you know?

There are a number of different ways to give to Central through the sale of stock and other securities. In light of the all-time high in the markets, it may be a perfect time to consider giving to Central in this way. Please contact Lisa Roth (lroth@centralpres.com or 314-727-2777) in our Business Office for help in executing a transaction, or to learn more.

Carols Re-Imagined

A Central tradition for generations, this year's annual Central Christmas concert features timeless carols in new and innovative settings.

From the introspective Fantasia on Christmas Carols by legendary British composer Ralph Vaughn Williams, to sparkling new settings of carols by award-winning New York composer Julian Wachner, to a brilliant Gloria by Texas-based Randol Alan Bass, there will surely be something for everyone. Central's choirs, orchestra, bells and brass will warm your heart and lift your spirit. And bring your voice: carol singing included!

This year's concert will be Friday, December 15 at 7:30pm. Following the concert, there will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall. This event is a fun way to share the Christmas season with friends and family. Admission is free, but there are tickets available in the lobbies that can be used to invite people you know. Pick up a few today to pass out to your friends, neighbors, and coworkers.

Christmas Worship Services

As you can tell by the beautiful decorations that were hung this week during the annual "hanging of the greens," Christmas is right around the corner. We hope your plans include celebrating this joyous holiday with us at one of Central's Christmas Eve worship services.

This year, Christmas Eve happens to fall on a Sunday, and our normal worship schedule will be a bit different. We will have one morning service, at 10:45. This will be the annual "Lessons and Carols" service, where the Christmas story is told through song and scripture. It will also be the last sermon in this year's Advent series.

On the evening of the 24th, we're pleased to offer three Christmas Eve services. At 5pm is the annual family service and children's pageant, a cherished tradition for Central families. Then, at 7pm and again at 9pm, we will celebrate the birth of Christ with traditional candlelight services. You can find all the details online at www.centralpres.com/christmas.

Central's Bible Reading Plan

Also available on our app, centralpres.com/gettheapp

Monday, Dec 4

- Ephesians 1-4

Tuesday, Dec 5

- Ephesians 5-6
- Psalm 119: 1-80

Wednesday, Dec 6

- Philippians 1-4

Thursday, Dec 7

- Colossians 1-4

Friday, Dec 8

- 1 Timothy 1-4

Saturday, Dec 9

- 1 Timothy 5-6
- Titus 1-3

Sunday, Dec 10

- 2 Timothy 1-4

Did you know you can follow this same reading plan on our app? Available for iOS or Android devices at www.centralpres.com/gettheapp.

PRAYER REQUEST

At Central, we believe in and depend upon the power of prayer. If you have a specific need or concern for which you would like prayer, please describe it below, tear off this panel, and drop it in the offering plate. The officers and intercessors covenant to pray for your requests as long as you desire. All requests will be treated as confidential.

Name (optional):

- I would like a pastor or elder to contact me
- Sick or homebound and would like a visit
- I would like a women's intercessor to contact me

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